

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-15

EUR-25 RSR-01 /113 W

----- 129959

R 170930Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI

TO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1362

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUBUMBASHI 0304

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT CG

SUBJECT: MURDERS

SUMMARY: A PERCEPTIBLE DEGREE OF TENSION HAS
ARISEN BETWEEN CIVIL AND MILITARY FOLLOWING
SERIES OF RECENT DEATHS, MOST OF WHICH HAVE BEEN
MURDERS BY SOLDIERS. FURTHER UNREST POSSIBLE
BUT NOT PREDICTED. END SUMMARY.

1. LUBUMBASHI AREA UNDERGOING ANOTHER PERIOD OF
CONSIDERABLE TENSION, PRECIPITATING CAUSE OF WHICH
WAS MURDER OF CIVILIAN IN AUGUST 2 NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING
BY WIDELY KNOWN AND DETESTED ARMY MAJOR LIANGANDA.
ARMY REACTED SWIFTLY WITH COURTMARTIAL AND DEATH
SENTENCE FOR MAJOR, TO REJOICING OF MANY CIVILIANS
AND MILITARY.

2. UNFORTUNATELY TWO PARACOMMANDOS WERE KILLED
FEW NIGHTS SUBSEQUENTLY IN VEHICULAR ACCIDENT AT
EDGE OF PARA CAMP KIMBEMBE OUTSIDE LUBUMBASHI ON
LIKASI ROAD. PARA REACTION OF INDISCIPLINED RAGE
WAS BASED ON UNFOUNDED CONCLUSION THAT PARAS HAD
BEEN KILLED AS REPRISAL FOR CIVILIAN DEATH.
ESTABLISHED ROADBLOCK, PULLED ZAIROIS CIVILIANS
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FROM VEHICLES, BEAT THEM AND REPORTEDLY KILLED

FROMTWO TO SIX. ANOTHER PARA GROUP WENT TO NEARBY RUASHI SUBDIVISION, ATTACKED CIVILIANS WITH BAYONETS, REPORTEDLY KILLED AND WOUNDED A NUMBER. RAPE REPORTEDLY OCCURRED IN ONE OR BOTH INCIDENTS.

3. SUBSEQUENTLY PARA MOOD HAS REMAINED UGLY. UNIFORMED OR IN CIVILIAN CLOTHES, SINGLY AND IN GROUPS THEY HAVE BEEN HARASSING ZAIROIS CIVILIANS IN THE "CITIES."NO REPORTS RECEIVED OF EUROPEANS BEING HARASSED OR HARMED, BUT THE PRUDENT, ZAIROIS AND EUROPEANS, HAVE TENDED TO STAY HOME NIGHTS LATELY.

4. FAZ CAPTAIN GENERAL BUMBA; WHO FLEW IN FOLLOWING PARA OUTBURST, MAY HAVE EXCERBATED RATHER THAN COOLED THE ISSUE. REPORTEDLY HAS TAKEN CONDEMNED MAJOR BACK TO KINSHASA WHERE, IT ASSUMED, PENALTY WILL NOT RPT NOT BE CARRIED OUT SINCE THEY ARE SAID TO BE OF SAME TRIBE. MOREOVER, BUMBA AND DUGA, OR HIGHER AUTHORITIES, HAVE OPTED TO TRY TO HUSH UP THE PARATROOP MURDERS RATHER THAN FOLLOWING RARE AND HAPPY EXAMPLE SET IN THE LIANGANDA CASE WHICH GOT FULLEST PRESS TREATMENT. INSTEAD BUMBA AND PRESS HAVE REFERRED TO INCIDENTS WITH ONLY VAGUEST ALLUSIONS AND BUMBA'S PUBLIC QTE CAUSERIES MORALES UNQUOTE HAS CALLED ON EVERYBODY TO BE NICE TO EACH OTHER, HARDLY DESIGNED TO SWAY THE ARROGANT PARAS.

5. LAST TWO DAYS HAVE BEEN CALMER. BARRING FURTHER BAD LUCK, LUBUMBASHI SHOULD SOON BE BACK TO ITS NORMAL STATE OF ENDEMIC LOW-LEVEL MALAISE.
JUNIOR

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